**DECLARATION - USA PATENT APPLICATION**

a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **HARDWARE-ACCELERATED HIGH AVAILABILITY INTEGRATED NETWORKED STORAGE SYSTEM**; the specification of which was filed on **February 17, 2004** as Application Serial No. **10/781,338**.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56;

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Codes § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application No.: 60/448,207

Filing Date: February 14, 2003

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Inventor's signature

Date June 24 2004

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Full name of second inventor: **Jeffrey Oliver Thomas**

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Date 6/22/04

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Full name of third inventor: **Itsik Yomorta**

Inventor's signature 

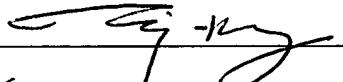
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Full name of fifth inventor: **Erasmo Javier Brenes**

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Date 6/22/04

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